

NEWS RELEASE

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

101 S Webster, P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707

Phone: 608-267-2773 TDD: 711

dnr.wi.gov www.wisconsin.gov

DATE: January 15, 2019

CONTACT: Rori Paloski

SUBJECT: Incidental take notice for Douglas County

MADISON – The Piping Plover Habitat Improvement Project may result in the "incidental taking" of a rare beetle under an authorization the Department of Natural Resources proposes to issue for the project. Incidental take refers to the unintentional loss of individual endangered or threatened animals or plants that does not put the overall population of the species at risk.

This project involves the placement of dredge material onto a beach in Allouez Bay to improve nesting and foraging habitat for the federally and state endangered piping plover. Approximately 3.5 acres of piping plover foraging habitat and 4.5 acres of piping plover nesting habitat would be constructed as a result of this project. By completing this project and maintaining the site over time, habitat for both the piping plover and the hairy-necked tiger beetle will be greatly increased in area and improved in quality.

The presence of the state endangered hairy-necked tiger beetle (*Cicindela hirticollis rhodensis*) has been confirmed in the vicinity of the project site. DNR staff determined that the proposed project may result in the incidental taking of some beetles.

The Department has concluded that the proposed project will minimize the impacts to the species by adhering to conservation measures; is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence and recovery of the state population of the species or the whole plant-animal community of which it is a part; and has benefit to the public health, safety or welfare that justifies the action.

The conservation measures to minimize the adverse effect on the endangered species will be incorporated into the proposed Incidental Take Authorization. Copies of the jeopardy assessment and background information on the hairy-necked tiger beetle are available by searching the DNR website for [incidental take public notice](#) or upon request from Rori Paloski (608-264-6040 or rori.paloski@wi.gov). The department is requesting comments from the public through February 14, 2019 regarding project-related impacts to the hairy-necked tiger beetle. Public comments should be sent to Rori Paloski, WDNR, PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921 or rori.paloski@wi.gov.